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REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks. Claims 8, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21-24, 28-30, 59 and 62-66 are currently pending. No amendments to the claims are made in the present response.

RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT UNDER 35 U.S.C. 121

Claims 8, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21-24, 28-30, 59 and 62-66 were subject to a restriction requirement. The Examiner indicated that Claims 8, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21-24, 28-30, 59 and 62-66 are drawn to more than one inventive concept (as defined in PCT Rule 13), because under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons:

Group I, II and V relate to three distinct processes for making the compounds of formula IC, IA and IC respectively. The process limitations of each of these processes are distinct and independent – they use different starting materials. The process of Group I requires compound of formula A, the processes of Group II and V use compound of formula IC and C as starting materials. Similarly, the processes of Group I, II and V are distinct and independent from the intermediate of III and IV. The intermediates of Group III and IV can be made and used independent of the process of Groups I, II or V. Thus, each Group is distinct and independent and does not share a single inventive concept. Applicants are required to i) elect an invention or species to be examined, even though the requirement may be traversed (37 CFR 1.143) and ii) to identify claims encompassing the elected invention.

The Examiner indicated that a restriction is required according to the provision of PCT Rule 13.2 is required for the following groups:

Group I Claims 8, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19 and 28-30, drawn to a process of preparing the compound of formula IC.

Group II Claims 21-24, drawn to a process of preparing compound of formula IA.

Group III Claim 59, drawn to an intermediate compound of formula 1-3.

Group IV Claim 62, drawn to yet another intermediate compound of formula 2-3.

Group V Claims 63-66, drawn to another process of preparing compound of formula IC.



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Applicants are required to i) elect an invention to be examined, even though the requirement may be traversed (37 CFR 1.143) and ii) to identify claims encompassing the elected invention.

Applicants hereby elect Group I, Claims 8, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19 and 28-30, drawn to a process of preparing the compound of formula IC, holding Groups II, III, IV and V in abeyance for further prosecution in a divisional application.

Applicants believe that all of the objections have been overcome and therefore earnestly solicit an early Notice of Allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

By

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